

REMARKS

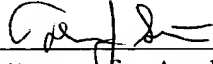
Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claim 17 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and claims 1-3, 6-7 and 18-21 remain actively pending in the case. Reconsideration of the claim is respectfully requested.

In paragraph 2 on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-3, 6, 7, and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Niamir (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2002/0027567) (Listing Network for Classified Information). However, in paragraph 3 on page 5 of the Office Action, claims 17-20 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants traverse the rejection, but in the interest of expediting prosecution have amended claims 1, 6 and 7 to overcome the rejection by incorporating the limitations of objected to claim 17. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the independent claims, as amended, are patentable over the cited references. Because claims 2-3, 17-18 and 19-21 depend from claims 1 and 7, respectively, and include the features recited in the independent claim, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-3 and 17-21 are also patentably distinct over the cited reference. Nevertheless, Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the Office Action's rejection with respect to such dependent claims and reserve the right to make additional arguments if necessary.

In view of the foregoing it is respectfully submitted that the claims in their present form are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees in connection with this communication to Deposit Account No. 05-0225.

Respectfully submitted,



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